

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A medical robotic system, comprising: a robotic arm; a coupler that
2 pivotally attaches to the arm; an endoscopic surgical instrument that is held by said coupler; a
3 controller having a handle, the controller in electrical communication with the robotic arm
4 wherein movement at the handle produces a proportional movement of the surgical
5 instrument; and means for adjusting the proportionality of movement between the handle and
6 the instrument.

1 2. The system of Claim 1 wherein said coupler removably attaches to said
2 robotic arm.

1 3. The system of Claim 1 wherein said endoscopic surgical instrument is
2 an articable endoscopic surgical instrument.

1 4. The system of Claim 1 wherein the articable surgical instrument
2 comprises a base, a pivot linkage, and a distal end.

1 5. The system of Claim 4 wherein a movement at the controller results in
2 corresponding movement of the distal end of the articable surgical instrument relative to the
3 base of the articable surgical instrument.

1 6. The system of claim 1 wherein the coupler has an aperture formed
2 therethrough.

1 7. A medical robotic system, comprising: a robotic arm; a coupler that
2 pivotally attaches to the arm; an endoscopic surgical instrument that is held by said coupler; a
3 controller having a removably attachable handle, the controller in electrical communication
4 with the robotic arm wherein movement at the handle produces a proportional movement of
5 the surgical instrument.

1 8. The system of claim 7 further comprising a plurality of removably
2 attachable handles, wherein a surgeon may interchange said handles.

1 9. The system of Claim 7 further comprising a handle stand, wherein said
2 attachable handle is removably attached to said handle stand.

1 10. The system of Claim 7 wherein said handle stand comprises means for
2 tilting said stand.

1 11. The system of Claim 7 wherein said handle stand comprises means for
2 raising and lowering said stand.

1 12. The system of Claim 7 wherein said handle stand comprises means for
2 adjusting distance between the handles portions of said handle stand.

1 13. The system of Claim 1 further comprising an audio feedback device
2 for providing audio messages.

1 14. A medical robotic system, comprising:
2 at least two robotic arms;
3 a controller having at least one handle, the controller in electrical
4 communication with the robotic arms wherein movement at a handle produces a proportional
5 at a corresponding arm; and
6 means for switching connections between a handle of the controller
7 and a specific one of the robotic arms such that a single handle may control a plurality of
8 robotic arms.

1 15. The system of Claim 14 wherein the means for switching comprises a
2 voice recognizer.

1 16. The system of claim 14 wherein the means for switching comprises a
2 switching device.

1 17. A medical robotic system, comprising:
2 a robotic arm;
3 a coupler that pivotally attaches to the arm;
4 an endoscopic surgical instrument that is held by said coupler;
5 a controller having a handle, the controller in electrical communication
6 with the robotic arm wherein movement at the handle produces a proportional movement of
7 the surgical instrument; and
8 a stabilizer attached to the surgical instrument.

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18. The system of claim 17 wherein said stabilizer is comprised of plastic.